REMARKS

Claims 12,13,15,17-26, 28,29 and 31-32 are pending in the present application; claims 1-11, 14, 16, 27 and 30 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Each of the independent claims now remaining correspond to one or more originally presented dependent claims indicated as being in allowable form. The independent claims and all claims dependent therefrom should now also be in allowed form as rewritten.

This case should now be in condition for allowance.

In light of the foregoing, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application with a view toward allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent if a telephone call could help solve any remaining items.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6/3/04

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